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Correctional/Special Education Training Project
Grant Number: G008303696

FINAL REPORT

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The Correctional Special Education Training (C/SET) Project was established for the purpose of improving and expanding delivery of special education services to incarcerated youth and young adults in compliance with and in response to the mandate of PL 94-142 and subsequent legislation.

The following project goals were implemented over a three year funding period:

1. To identify model correctional education programs which represent the most promising special education practices in correctional education.

2. To establish a network of state special education and correctional education leadership personnel.

3. To develop model curricula for the training of correctional and special education personnel at the inservice and preservice levels.

4. To facilitate ongoing communication with and interaction among the network of state special education and correctional education leadership personnel.

5. To incorporate the model correctional education curriculum into higher education special education preservice training programs.

In the first year of the project, team members identified and made site visits to selected correctional education programs in Maryland, California, and

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ABSTRACT

The final report summarizes activities of the 3-year Correctional Special Education Training (C/SET) Project, designed to improve special education services to incarcerated youth and young adults. Original project goals are listed. First year activities are noted, including site visits to identify current regional correctional special education practices and an incidence study of handicapped offenders across the country. In year 2, activities included development of eight curriculum modules, publication of papers from the project's national conference, and participation of staff in regional and national meetings. The final year focused on field testing and refining of the C/SET curriculum training modules. An appendix lists major project publications, site visits, conference presentations, documents and resource papers, training modules, and network activities. (CL)

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Louisiana. The purpose of these site visits was to identify current regional correctional special education practices. Also in the first year, a study was completed which identified the number of handicapped offenders being served across the nation and the number of teachers delivering these services. Results were disseminated to all state departments of correctional and special education nationwide. Project year one culminated in a national conference in Arlington, Virginia. The conference served as a catalyst for establishing the network of state leadership personnel providing participants with a forum to discuss common issues and problems.

Other first year activities included the collection of information regarding best practices in correctional special education, as well as information regarding policies and procedures affecting correctional special education services. In addition, project staff contracted for the development of eight resource papers on correctional special education topics.

During the second year of the project, the team was expanded to include teacher trainers who were responsible for the development of eight curriculum training modules: Correctional Education/The Criminal Justice System, Characteristics of Exceptional Populations, Overview of Special Education, Overview of PL 94-142 and IEPs, Assessment of Exceptional Individuals, Curriculum for Exceptional Individuals, Instructional Methods and Strategies, and Vocational Special Education.

Second year activities also included the distribution of the resource papers based on the project's national conference, distribution, in cooperation with the National Association of State Directors of Special education (NASDSE), of Monitoring the Special Education Programs of Correctional Institutions: A Guide for Special Education Monitoring Staff of State Education Agencies by Martin Gerry, and publication of the first issue of the project's newsletter, FOCUS. In addition, the project sponsored subscriptions for state correctional education departments to SpecialNet and held training sessions on SpecialNet at both the Arlington conference and the Correctional Education Association conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in July, 1984. The project also began disseminating information through the use of a SpecialNet C.SET bulletin board. Selection of curriculum training module content was made at this time, based on information obtained from the Arlington conference and the original project study.

In addition, the project staff continued resource activities whereby the project became a clearinghouse for the dissemination of correctional special education information. In addition, project staff's participation in regional and national meetings increased the dissemination of correctional special education information and increased the number of participants in the project's network of state leadership personnel.

The final year of the project focused on field testing and refining the C/SET curriculum training modules and on identifying and developing linkages between post-secondary special education and criminal justice preservice education programs. In the final year, the project continued to disseminate project resource papers, two newsletters were published, and the project staff continued to serve as a resource for networking among correctional special educators.

A preservice survey of post-secondary criminal justice and special education teacher training programs was conducted and the results were disseminated to 2,877 survey participants and the approximately 800 members of the C/SET Project network. Project staff members identified potential sites for the field testing of the training modules. Draft modules were sent to 21 states for field testing and feedback. On-site testing was conducted in Georgia, where direct training was provided to 45 state correctional special education personnel. C/SET staff members participated and contributed to the National Office of Juvenile Justice Prevention forum on Correctional Special Education. A national correctional special education training and dissemination workshop in Lexington, Kentucky was the concluding project event. Major project activities and products are summarized in Appendix A.

Appendix A

C/SET PROJECT ACTIVITIES

PUBLICATIONS

Rutherford, R. B., Nelson, C. M., & Wolford, B. I. (1985). Special education in the most restrictive environment: Correctional special education. Journal of Special Education, 19, 59-71.

Nelson, C. M., Rutherford, R. B., & Wolford, B. I. (1985). Handicapped offenders: Meeting education needs. Corrections Today, 47(5), 32, 34.

Rutherford, R. B., Nelson, C. M., & Wolford, B. I. (in press). Special education programming in juvenile corrections. Remedial and Special Education.

Nelson, C. M., Rutherford, R. B., & Wolford, B. I. (Eds.). (in press). Special education in the criminal justice system. Columbus, OH: Merrill.

Nelson, C. M., Rutherford, R. B., & Wolford, B. I. (1985). Special education for handicapped offenders. In J. Gilliam & B. Scott (Eds.). Topics in emotional disturbance (pp. 311-316). Austin, TX: Behavior Learning Center.

Rutherford, R. B., & Nelson, C. M. (in press) The learning handicapped adult offender. In B. I. Wolford (Ed.). Corrections education: An overview. Columbus, OH: National Center for Research in Education.

Rutherford, R. B. (1986). Special education training for teachers of adjudicated youth. Education and Adjudication.

Wolford, B. I., Rutherford, R. B., & Nelson, C. M. (Eds.). (in press). Implementing training for correctional educators. Richmond, KY: Eastern Kentucky University.

Rutherford, R. B., & Bigelow, S. S. (1985). Special education in adult and juvenile corrections references. Exceptional Child Education Resources.

SITE VISITS

Maryland-

Baltimore Diagnostic Center
Hagerstown Correctional Facilities (adult male)
Hagerstown Correctional Facilities (adult female)

Louisiana-

Louisiana Training Institute at Monroe
Hunt Correctional Center

Intake Adult Reception and Diagnostic Center at St. Gabriel

California-

El Paso de Robles School
Northern California Youth Center
DeWitt Nelson Training Center
Northern Reception Center/Clinic

Nevada-

The National Judicial College, University of Nevada, Reno, NV
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, University of Nevada, Reno, NV

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

C/SET Grant -- Correctional/Special Education Training Project, 7th Annual Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders National Conference, Tempe, Arizona (November, 1983). Rutherford, R. B., Nelson, C. M., & Wolford, B. I.

Correctional Special Education Training Project. Federal Correctional Special Education Conference, Lexington, Kentucky (March, 1984). Nelson, C. M., Wolford, B. I., & Rutherford, R. B.

Major issues in correctional special education. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Chicago, Illinois (March, 1984). Wolford, B. I.

Correctional special education in the 1980's. Region III Correctional Education Association Conference, Madison, Wisconsin (May, 1984). Wolford, B. I.

Special education teachers in a correctional setting: Facing the challenge. Proceedings of the 39th International Correctional Education Association Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (July, 1984). Wolford, B. I.

Correctional/Special Education Training Project: Report on year one. 39th International Conference Correctional Education Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (July, 1984). Wolford, B. I., Rutherford, R. B., & Nelson, C. M.

Educational interventions in the juvenile justice system. Keynote address at the Programming for the Developmental Needs of Adolescents with Behavior Disorders Conference II, Pensacola, Florida (October, 1984). Wolford, B. I.

Special education compliance issues in juvenile and adult corrections: A national perspective. Programming for the Developmental Needs of Adolescents with Behavior Disorders Conference II, Pensacola, Florida (October, 1984). Rutherford, R. B., & Nelson, C. M.

State perspectives on correctional education. The National Adult Education Conference, Louisville, Kentucky (November, 1984). Wolford, B. I.

Special education in juvenile and adult corrections: A data-based description. 8th Annual Teacher Educators for Children with Behavioral Disorders National Conference, Tempe, Arizona (November, 1984). Nelson, C. M., Wolford, B. I., & Rutherford, R. B.

Educational interventions in the juvenile justice system. Keynote address at the Eighth Annual Conference on Severe Behavior Disorders of Children and Youth, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona (November, 1984). Wolford, B. I.

Special education for juvenile delinquents. 8th Annual Conference on Emotional Disturbance, Austin, Texas (February, 1985). Rutherford, R. B., & Nelson, C. M.

Emerging partnership between correctional and special education. Understanding Troubled Youth Conference, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland (March, 1985). Rutherford, R. B.

Factors associated with adolescent behavior disorders: Implications for interventions. Understanding Troubled Youth Conference, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland (March, 1985). Nelson, C. M.

Programming for transitions from public schools to correctional facilities to vocational training or community placement. Council for Exceptional Children National Conference on Secondary, Transitional and Post Secondary Education for Exceptional Youth, Boston, Massachusetts (March, 1985). Rutherford, R. B., Nelson, C. M., Wolford, B. I., Leone, P., & Fejes, K.

Special education caucus. 3rd Annual Correctional Education Association Regional Conference, Anaheim, California (April, 1985). Wolford, B. I.

Special education in the most restrictive environment: Handicapped offenders in the criminal justice system. 64th annual International Council for Exceptional Children Convention, Anaheim, California (April, 1985). Nelson, C. M., Wolford, B. I., & Rutherford, R. B.

Special education for learning handicapped offenders. Arizona Department of Corrections Conference, Phoenix, Arizona (May, 1985). Rutherford, R. B.

Correctional special education forum. 40th International Conference of the Correctional Education Association, Atlanta, Georgia (July, 1985). Wolford, B. I., Rutherford, R. B., & Nelson, C. M.

National Conference on Correctional Education: Building partnership for excellence in correctional education, Arlington, Virginia (October, 1985). Wolford, B. I., Nelson, C. M., Rutherford, R. B., & Leone, P.

Panel Discussion: Programming for handicapped juvenile offenders. 9th Annual Conference on Severe Behavior Disorders of Children and Youth, Scottsdale, Arizona (November, 1985). Rutherford, R. B., Nelson, C. M., Wolford, B. I., Fredericks, B., Leone, P., & Edgar, E. B.

Special education and criminal justice: Interdisciplinary efforts. Academy

of Criminal Justice Sciences Conference. Orlando, Florida, (1986). Wolford, B. I., Rutherford, R. B., & Nelson, C. M.

Correctional special education: Overview of the problem of compliance. 65th Annual International Council for Exceptional Children Convention. New Orleans, Louisiana (1986). Rutherford, R. B., Wolford, B. I., & Nelson, C. M.

SPONSORED PRESENTATIONS

Consultations on the assessment for handicapped offenders in the states of Montana, New Mexico, Arizona and Kansas. Howell, K. W. (Arizona State University).

DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCE PAPERS

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: Correctional Special Education, Five Years Later. Brown, S. Southern Reception Center and Clinic, Norwalk, California (April, 1984).

Results of a National Correctional Special Education Survey. Eggleston, C. Reception and Diagnostic Center, Bon Air, Virginia (April, 1984).

The Handicapped Youthful Offender: Prevalence and Current Practices. Keilitz, I. Institute on Mental Disability and the Law, National Center for State Courts, Williamsburg, Virginia (April, 1984).

Preservice and Inservice Training for Teachers of Incarcerated Handicapped Youth. Leone, P. University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland. (April, 1984).

Implementing PL 94-142 in the Adult Correctional Setting. Miller, H. E. P. Maryland State Department of Education, Correctional Education Office. (April, 1984).

Educational Programming for Handicapped Offenders: A Comprehensive Functional Approach. Platt, J. S. West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia. (April, 1984).

The Law and Correctional Education. Wood, F. H. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. (April, 1984).

Behavioral Approaches to Delinquency, References. Rutherford, R. B. & Bigelow, S. S. Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona. (April, 1985).

Focus: The Newsletter of the Correctional/Special Education Training Project, Vol. 1, Issue 1, Ralston, J., editor, (April, 1985).

Focus: The Newsletter of the Correctional/Special Education Training Project, Vol. 2, Issue 1, Ralston, J., editor, (January, 1986).

Focus: The Newsletter of the Correctional/Special Education Training Project, Vol. 2, Issue 2, Ralston, J., editor, (May, 1986).

Juvenile and Adult Correctional Special Education Data. Survey of 85 state Departments of Corrections (Juvenile, Adult and Combined Juvenile/Adult) and 50 State Departments of Special Education. Rutherford, R. B., Wolford, B. I., & Nelson, C. M. (August, 1984).

Monitoring the Special Education Programs of Correctional Institutions: A Guide for Special Education Monitoring Staff of State Education Agencies. Developed by Gerry, M. H. and disseminated by the National Association of State Directors of Special Education and the Correctional Special Education Training Project (March, 1985).

TRAINING MODULES

Training Module 1: Correctional Education / The Criminal Justice System, Leone, P., & Issacson, S.

Training Module 2: Characteristics of Exceptional Populations, Leone, P., & Issacson, S.

Training Module 3: Overview of Special Education, Dwiggins, D.

Training Module 4: Overview of PL 94-142 and IEPs, Dwiggins, D.

Training Module 5: Assessment of Exceptional Populations, Sugai, G.

Training Module 6: Curriculum for Exceptional Individuals, Sugai, G.

Training Module 7: Instructional Methods and Strategies, Sugai, G.

Training Module 8: Vocational Special Education, Posluszny, M.

NETWORK ACTIVITIES

SpecialNet bulletin board: C.SET. Providing information of mutual interest to state departments of correctional education and state department of special education.

Sponsored SpecialNet subscriptions for state departments of correctional education.

National survey of university special education and criminal justice programs on preservice training in correctional special education.

National Correctional Special Education Training Project Conference, Arlington, Virginia (April, 1984).

State training of correctional special educators, Savannah, Georgia (October, 1985).

Training of Trainers National Workshop, Lexington, Kentucky (April, 1986).